



VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION
Spring 2002 Newsletter
Editor, Bill Carr (Virginia Beach)



A Message from our President, John W. Hazelette.....

The end of school is in sight and I offer my congratulations to you for another safe year. Your dedication and commitment to the children of Virginia is witnessed each and every day.

Final details are being worked out for our conference. Norfolk is proud to be hosting this year's event and trust that your visit here will be both beneficial to you professionally and memorable to you personally. Your VAPT Board, Directors, and Committees have worked very hard this year to take our organization to the "next level." Please thank them for their time and efforts in this endeavor.

For me, this year marks my final term as President, and I want to thank each of you for the support you have given me. Our next president and Board will need the same level of generous support that you have given me – I am sure they will get that. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you through VAPT.

Best wishes for a safe school closing. I look forward to seeing you in Norfolk this June.

VAPT WEBSITE: www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Finance/VAPT.index.htm

Notice the UPPER CASE letters in this address – It's important!



Gregory Sutton is the new Arlington City Public Schools' Transportation Director, who succeeded Tom Newman this January. Greg has been a Transportation Supervisor in Dover and Selbyville, Delaware for four years. In addition to his pupil transportation experience, he has over 25 years experience in other fields of transportation. Greg was a Transportation Officer in the military and a Transportation Coordinator with the Mobil Oil Corporation and currently is a Major in the Army Reserves. He publishes a monthly newsletter to keep his employees informed. We are pleased to welcome Greg to VAPT!



Have you heard, **JANICE KIRBY** is retiring this year?

After 32 years she is going to park her bus, finally hand up the telephone and before hanging up tell the constantly complaining folks "to call dial a prayer." Just kidding she didn't say that, but she did say she was going to miss the job and everyone she has met throughout her years in pupil transportation. Another surprise – she is go to Las Vegas to visit her twin and - now hold on to your hat – she is getting married to her long time boyfriend! Sounds like she has quite an exciting summer planned. Janice, we will all miss you and hope the best for you and your husband and that you will have a much earned relaxing and fun retirement.



Did you know there was an article published in the May 2002 edition of School Transportation News “Honoring Women in Transportation” and our own **Barbara Goodman** was included? The article, with a picture, can be found on page 30. A great article about a wonderful person!



DON'T WAIT to register for **THE CONFERENCE!**

WHAT CONFERENCE?

The DOE/VAPT Annual

WHEN:

June 16 through June 19, 2002

WHERE:

Waterside Marriott, Norfolk

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Sunday, June 16

8:00 AM

Exhibitor's Setup

Noon

Bryan W. Morris, Sr., Memorial Golf Tournament

Nansemond River Golf Club, Suffolk

2:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Conference Registration

2:00 PM to 5:00 PM "Where do I Begin?" Workshop for new pupil transportation coordinators, supervisors, and directors.
 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM – "Demonstration of New Crash Reporting System" by Kathy Bateman, VCU, Transportation Safety Training System
 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM Exhibits and Reception
(Sponsor: International Truck and Engine)
 8:30 PM VAPT Executive Board Meeting

MONDAY, JUNE 17

7:00 AM to 5:00 PM *Conference Registration*
 7:00 AM to 8:45 AM Exhibit Displays
 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast
 8:45 AM to 9:30 AM VAPT First General Meeting
 9:30 AM to Noon First Opening General Session
 Presentation of the Colors: Norfolk Police, Fire and Rescue Honor Guard
 Pledge of Allegiance: John Hazelette, VAPT President
 National Anthem: Gary Coggin, Norfolk Fire and Paramedic Rescue Service
 Inspirational/Patriotic Music:
 Invocation: Kenneth A. Davis, Director of Transportation, Caroline County Schools
 Welcome: Dr. John O. Simpson, Superintendent of Norfolk City Public Schools
 Opening Remarks: Dr. Jo Lynne S. DeMary, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Virginia Department of Education
 FISH: Debra Q. Marlow, Director of Community Relations
 Chesterfield County Public Schools
 Charter/Tour Buses Chris Hartley, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
 North Carolina
 Experience
 12:30 PM School Bus Roadeo
 Lake Taylor High School, Norfolk
 Shuttles are available from the Marriott and return
(Lunch sponsored by Virginia Truck)
 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM Exhibit Displays
 4:00 PM Refreshments
 6:00 PM Family Night at Nauticus & USS Wisconsin
(Sponsor: The Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation)
 Bar-b-que Supper
(Sponsor: Sonny Merryman, Inc & Thomas Built Buses)

TUESDAY, JUNE 18

7:00 AM to 8:30 AM Exhibit Displays
 7:30 AM to 8:00 AM Continental Breakfast
(Sponsor: Carter Cat)
 7:00 AM to 8:30 AM Technicians leave hotel (shuttles to Norfolk Pupil Transportation Maintenance Facility)

8:30 AM to 9:30 AM VAPT Business Meeting
9:30 AM Supervisors
Moderator: David Pace

9:30 AM to 10:30 AM Physical Qualifications of School Bus Drivers
Panel: Greg Biermacki, M.D.; Millicent Ford, Deputy Director of Driver Monitoring Division, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles and Craig Fiester, State Director of Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (CDL)

10:45 AM- 12:15 PM "Prepared – Not Scared" – Fights, Guns, Hostages, etc
Dr. Nancy Blackwelder

12:15 PM- 1:15 PM Lunch
1:15 PM- 2:05 PM Break Out Sessions (50 minutes sessions)
2:15 PM- 3:05 PM Repeat
3:15 PM- 4:05 PM Repeat

#1 Special two-block session (1:15 PM to 3:05 PM)
"Fair Labor Standards-Wage and Salaries for School Bus Drivers
Laine Schwarta; Morgan, Lewis, Bockius, LLP, Washington, DC
Moderator: Becky Mummau

#2 Federal Drug and Alcohol Testing – "Are We Compliant?"
Craig Feister; Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
Moderator: Michael Ashby

#3 "De-escalating Violent Behavior"
Dr. Nancy Blackwelder
Moderator: A. J. Botkin

#4 "Frequently Asked Questions About Licensing and Other Driver Qualifications."
(CDL, learner's permit, restrictions, third-party testing, fees, endorsements, revocations or suspensions of CDL, drug and alcohol testing, etc.)
Pat Rollins Driver Licensing Quality Assurance Supervisor and Sharon Brown, Assistant Division Manager-Driver Licensing, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles
Moderator: Ralph L. Moore

#5 Special two hour session, 2:15 PM to 3:05 PM on
"School Bus Accident Investigation – Vehicle Dynamics and Bio Mechanics." Lawrence E. Jackson, National Resource Specialist and Kristen Poland, PH.D – National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)
Moderator: Mitzi Cruise

4:15 PM Ice Cream Social
(Sponsored by Allison Transmission)

6:00 PM

Banquet
Dance (30 minutes following end of banquet)
(Sponsored by Kingmor Supply, Inc)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

7:00 AM- 8:30 AM

Breakfast 7:00 – 8:00

**(Sponsored by Kingmor Supply, Inc
And International Truck and Engine)**

Remarks from Tom Cellitti, Vice President and General
Manager, Bus Vehicle Center, International Truck and
Engine Corporation

Updates from DOE and VAPT

Moderator: Incoming VAPT President

8:30 AM- 9:30 AM

“Lessons Learned”

Brunswick County: school bus fire

Henrico County: update of Laudendale Drive

Amherst County: student killed while crossing a highway

Botetourt County: truck ran into the rear of school bus

Newport News City: student hit while school bus unload on a
divided highway

Roanoke County: 75 year old pedestrian hit by a school bus
driver (age, 84) while making a turn

Moderator: Incoming VAPT President

9:30 AM

“Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) – What
are these?”

Jane Dawson, Corporate Sales Training Manager, Thomas
Built Buses, Inc

Moderator: Incoming VAPT President

Noon

Announcements – Adjournment



MEMBERSHIP

COMMITTEE

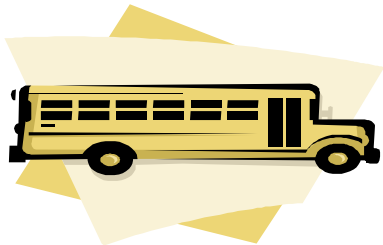
Ralph Moore, Chairperson

If you have not already mailed your membership dues, please do so immediately.
To save you time and confusion at the conference - MAIL YOUR MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION AND DUES FOR 2002-2003 TO Treasurer,
Fred Rankin, Director of Transportation, Culpeper County
Public Schools, Culpeper, VA. To receive the VAPT
NEWSLETTER, please send Bill Carr, Editor, the e-mail
address where he can send you a copy.



ENRICHING THOUGHTS

- The most enriching good habit – Complimenting others
 - The greatest loss – Loss of self-respect
- The most satisfying work – Helping others
- The ugliest personality trait – Selfishness
- Our greatest natural resource – Our youth
 - The worst thing to be without – Hope
 - The most worthless emotion – Self-pity
- The most contagious spirit – Enthusiasm



SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services (NHTSA)

NHTSA has announced a new initiative to provide assistance to the pupil transportation industry in the area of school bus driver training/performance. As background, in 1974, NHTSA developed a comprehensive training curriculum for school bus drivers. Since then, many states have used that curriculum as a basis for their own curricula.

As part of its continuing efforts to provide assistance to the pupil transportation industry, NHTSA asked the State Directors Association for its assistance in determining what new school bus driver training information is most needed in the industry. In April, the State Directors Association conducted a survey of its state director members for NHTSA to help the

agency decide what type of assistance the pupil transportation industry needs.

NHTSA asked for opinions on the following five optional federal initiatives:

1. A revision of the basic NHTSA school bus driver training curriculum that was created in 1974. The format would remain the same (with lesson plans and learning activities) and the content would be updated with current information and practices.
2. A web-based resource document that includes all the topics in the NHTSA school bus curriculum but not presented in a curriculum format. As with the curriculum, the content would be updated with current information and practices. The topics would be presented clearly and concisely, like a fact sheet. States could use the resource document to update or revise their own school bus driver training curricula.
3. An interactive CD-ROM that presents the school bus driver with a variety of situations that might be encountered on a school bus route and asks the driver how he or she might respond. The CD could be used as a self-study, or as a diagnostic tool to assess driver comprehension and skills. It would require drivers to know the basic rules of driving a school bus.
4. A “best practice guild” on developing an effective program for testing drug and alcohol use by school bus drivers.
5. A new School Bus Driver In-Service Safety Series module on how to handle potentially dangerous situations on a school bus (terrorism, hostages, kidnapping, students with weapons, etc.) The focus would be on how to develop an emergency plan, and what to include in it.

In addition to the above five items, the survey also asked state directors for their opinions on whether there are any gaps in school bus driver training or other emerging issues that need to be addressed from a national perspective?



EDITOR’S NOTE TO VAPT

MEMBERS

To receive your VAPT Newsletter, please don’t forget to send **your name** and **e-mail address** to bcarr@vbcps.k12.va.us.